Common Space, Berlin, Friday 30 June 2017

Reporting template 2017
Common Space Focus Sessions

Focus Session theme: Focus Session 2: Mechanisms for other migrants in vulnerable situations

1. What concrete mechanisms\(^1\) exist, existed or might be developed that can achieve “safe, orderly and regular migration” within the theme of this focus session? Please name 3 to 4 mechanisms.

- **Particular resource:** what mechanisms if any does the Sutherland Report suggest in this regard?

(If possible, please detail the stakeholders involved in this mechanism, and – if it is being implemented – please include country/region of implementation if mechanism are mentioned that should be omitted because they go against the principles of ‘safe, orderly and regular’, feel free to also take note of them).

There were about nine different mechanisms that were brought forward in our conversation. Here are some of those that were discussed:

- **Humanitarian Corridors**
  - For example: The Praesidium Project which existed in Italy to address vulnerabilities within large flows. Began with a needs-first response, then differentiation for specific rights under existing instruments, then referral to service/assistance providers to address specific needs of migrants. This was a multi-actor, multi-competancy project, with cooperation from the Italian Government, Save the Children and the Italian Red Cross, and had adequate MOI, with funding from the European Commission. This established, coordinated approach reduced vulnerabilities.

- **Private Sponsorship**
  - This exists in different forms in many places. German and Canadian projects were specifically mentioned. Private sponsorship helps to meet the demand for regular pathways. Must ensure that policies don’t overwhelm those who undertake responsibility as sponsors and don’t lead to exploitation of migrants by sponsors. Challenges may arise when the period of sponsorship ends.

- **Safe Places**
  - Safepoints or safe spaces on-route, for migrants to rest, get information about rights, legal situation, access to support – health, shelter etc. This can reduce vulnerabilities, protect from trafficking and empower to make informed decisions. These need to be independant, as migrants may be fearful of government services. Consultation needed governments so there are no arrests in/around these points for migration issues. There must be no criminalization of humanitarian support. Need firewalls between social services & law enforcement so people can access these protections. These exist (though not always with the same level of services) in many places, mostly

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\(^1\) Mechanisms are policies, practices, programmes or partnerships that focus on implementation, not simply restating rights or commitments, that concretely help to achieve safe, orderly and regular migration and that either already exist, existed or can be developed. Mechanisms can be implemented individually or in partnerships among states or local authorities, civil society, private sector, international organisations, or several of the above, and they can be local, national, regional, global or multi-levelled.
2. Is it possible to conceive timelines that the Global Compact on Migration might include for a few goals and targets that can increasingly implement such mechanisms for example, over 2, 5 and 12 years?

(Here we are looking at practical next steps to achieve these mechanisms, in the short, mid and longer term. If mentioned, please list who should initiate these next steps).

- **Short-term**
  - Implement Humanitarian Corridors to address urgent needs of migrants in vulnerable situations & begin establishing mechanisms for cooperation that will prevent future stress on migration systems
  - Encourage private sponsorship programs to meet demand for regular pathways
  - Consult with migrant communities to determine where safe places are most needed & implement safe places to provide humanitarian support and basic services to migrants
  - Determine definitions and responsibilities related to Climate Status Determination

- **Mid-term**
  - 10 countries outside of Latin America and Africa are writing protections for climate displaced persons into legislation & implementing these in practice.

- **Long-term**
  - Climate Status Determination is a norm. Establish Global Report on Climate Status – looking at how root causes have been addressed, resilience, adaptation, disaster risk reduction, as well as looking at financial and humanitarian support by countries of desitination and how these countries are impacting climate change.

3. If your session could choose one key message to be conveyed in the plenary by the Grand Rapporteur, what would it be?

Migrants are not vulnerable per se; they are made vulnerable by policies that focus on enforcement rather than adequately addressing the needs of host communities and migrants themselves. There are many existing mechanisms we can build upon to ensure greater policy coherence, to reduce vulnerabilities and to empower migrants.

4. Additional comments, e.g. particular challenges or highlights worth mentioning? [optional]

5. Inspirational quotes? [optional]